

**Remarks**

The indication that claims 25-26, 35-36, 43-49, and 56-63 include patentable subject matter is acknowledged with thanks. Further, art was not applied against claims 30-31, 42, 70-77, and 84-91. These claims include subject matter indicated to be allowable in other claims and thus are presumed to be allowable as well.

In reliance thereon, the claims have been amended to place the application in condition for allowance. The subject matter of claim 25 has been added to claim 22, the subject matter of claim 30 has been added to claim 27, the subject matter of claim 36 has been added to claim 32, the subject matter of claim 44 has been added to claim 37, claims 42-43 have been amended into independent form, the subject matter of claim 58 has been added to claim 51, the subject matter of claim 72 has been added to claim 65, claims 70-71 have been amended into independent form, and the subject matter of claim 86 has been added to claim 79.

Claims 1, 3-8, and 10-14 were rejected under §112, first paragraph. These claims have been canceled and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 27, 30-31, and 65-91 were rejected under §112, second paragraph, and have been amended as to form.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 37-41, 50-55, 64-69, 78-83, and 92 were rejected as anticipated by the admitted prior art (APA). These claims have been amended to include allowable subject matter or canceled and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Claims 22, 27, and 32 were rejected as unpatentable over the APA in view of KANEKAR et al. 6,751,191; claims 1, 3-6, 8, and 10-13 were rejected as unpatentable over the APA in view of CHERITON 6,724,721; and claims 7 and 14 were rejected as unpatentable over the APA in view of CHERITON and NOUREDDINE et al. ("Selective Back-Pressure in Switched Ethernet LANS," pp. 1256-1263, Global Telecommunications Conference, 1999). These claims have been amended to include allowable subject matter or canceled and reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

In view of the present amendment, it is believed that the present application has been placed in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.

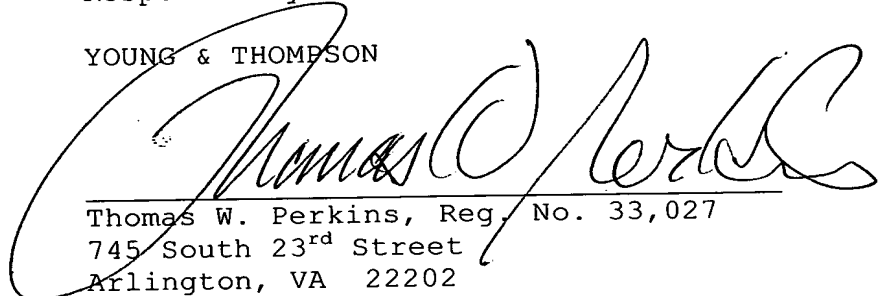
Charge the fee of \$200 for the one independent claim added herewith to Deposit Account No. 25-0120.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment

to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required  
under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

YOUNG & THOMPSON

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Thomas W. Perkins". The signature is written over a horizontal line that separates it from the printed contact information below.

Thomas W. Perkins, Reg. No. 33,027  
745 South 23<sup>rd</sup> Street  
Arlington, VA 22202  
Telephone (703) 521-2297  
Telefax (703) 685-0573  
(703) 979-4709

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